

REMARKS

This is an amendment after a final office action. Applicant respectfully requests that the amended claims be admitted, since the Examiner identified such claims as allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. This has been done. The amendments were not previously entered because they address allowable subject matter identified by the Examiner. Applicant canceled Claims 1-3, 7-8, and 11-12 and amended Claims 4, 9 and 13. No new matter has been added.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Examiner rejected Claims 7 and 8 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) for anticipation by Loftin et al (US Patent 5,512,623). The Examiner rejected Claims 1-3 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) for anticipation by Momose (US Patent 6,749,675). Claims 1-3 and 7-8 are canceled, rendering these rejections moot.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner rejected Claims 11-12 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Momose as applied to Claims 1-2 above. The Examiner rejected Claims 1-3 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hanke et al (US Patent 5,466,281). Claims 1-3 and 11-12 are canceled, rendering these rejections moot.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner indicated Claims 4-6, 9, 10, 13 and 14-16 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. This has been done. Applicant respectfully requests allowance of the claims. The Examiner is encouraged to contact the attorney listed below if there are any questions or comments.

Respectfully submitted,



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